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TO 3600 MAIL ROOM DE/JK/J088190PUS:TQH:111827 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE patent application of: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Peter W. De La Marche Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 Serial No. 09/720,895 on Thomas Q. Hepry Filed January 2, 2001 of Registered Representative MODULAR BUILDINGS US National Stage of PCT/GB99/02141 Date of Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents

International Filing Date July 5, 1999

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter following Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified patent application. The Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-24.

Please add new claims 25-45 as follows:

A modular building structure comprising a service module defining a plurality of --25. connection nodes for connection to separate building modules, the service module containing apparatus for the supply and distribution of at least one mains service to the building modules, each building module being free-standing, pre-fitted for its intended use and connected to one of said connection nodes and to said supply of at least one mains service, wherein the service module is in the form of a corridor walkway linking the building modules.